

## Message Text

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15

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 EB-07 OFA-01 SCA-01 SCSE-00 DLOS-05 CG-00

DOT-00 /080 W

----- 104823

R 171519Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9659

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 1115

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PN, CS

SUBJECT: "LA NACION" EDITORIAL ON PANAMA CANAL

IN A BRIEF BUT STRONGLY WORDED EDITORIAL, "LA NACION" OF MARCH 17 CRITICIZES THE RECENT DECLARATION OF 37 U.S. SENATORS CALLING FOR RETENTION OF U.S. SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE PANAMA CANAL. THE EDITORIAL BEGINS WITH THE STATEMENT THAT "PROMINENT NORTH AMERICAN POLITICIANS LOST THE OPPORTUNITY TO AVOID NEW CONFRONTATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICA." IT DESCRIBES THE SENATORS' STATEMENT ALONG WITH EX-GOVERNOR REAGAN'S RECOMMENDATION THAT A U.S. DESTROYER ACCOMPANY U.S. TUNA BOATS AS "EXTRAVAGANT PROPOSALS WHICH SEEM EXTRACTED FROM THE ARCHIVES" AND WHICH COULD BE INTERPRETED AS AN INTIMIDATING ACTION AS A NEW ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS ON THE CANAL BEGINS. FURTHERMORE, THE EDITORIAL STATES THAT THE PRETENDED SOVEREIGNTY OF THE U.S. OVER THE CANAL ZONE WOUNDS THE DIGNITY OF THE PANAMANIAN PEOPLE AND OF ALL PEOPLES OF LATIN AMERICA. FOREIGN ENCLAVES, IT GOES ON TO SAY, ARE AN ANACHRONISM AND A DENIAL OF ALL THAT THE U.S. HAS PROCLAIMED ABOUT SOVEREIGNTY AND FREEDOM. THE EDITORIAL ALSO DISCOUNTS THE SENATORS' STATEMENT ON THE STRATEGIC VALUE OF THE CANAL TO THE U.S. IT CLAIMS THAT WIDESPREAD MILITARY

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BASES ARE NO LONGER NECESSARY IN THIS ERA OF SOPHISTICATED

WEAPONRY AND POINTS OUT THAT, IN FACT, THE U.S. IS CURRENTLY  
CARRYING OUT A PROGRAM OF REDUCING ITS BASES ABROAD.  
TODMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, LEGISLATORS, SOVEREIGNTY  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750095-0033  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** hartledg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <18 JUN 2003 by BrownAM>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2004 by hartledg>  
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EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LA NACION" EDITORIAL ON PANAMA CANAL IN A BRIEF BUT STRONGLY WORDED EDITORIAL, "LA NACION  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PN, CS, PQ, US, LA NACION  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006